



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Council Bill No. 13 - 2010 amending Title 18, Subtitle 9. Stormwater Management of the Howard County Code and Council Resolution 38 - 2010 revising Chapter 5, Stormwater Management, of Volume I (Storm Drainage) of the Design Manual in order to amend the stormwater management requirements in Howard County.

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

Through: Marsha McLaughlin, Director
Department of Planning and Zoning

From: Charles Dammers, Chief
Development Engineering Division

Date: March 23, 2010

The Department of Planning and Zoning supports CB No. 13- 2010 amending Title 18, Subtitle 9. Stormwater Management and Council Resolution 38 - 2010 for the revision of Chapter 5, Stormwater Management, of Design Manual Volume 1. On April 24, 2007 the Governor of Maryland signed the “Stormwater Management Act of 2007” which is codified in Sections 4.201.1 and 4.203 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Stormwater Management Act of 2007 provides that each county shall adopt revisions to its stormwater management regulations by May 4, 2010. This proposed revision amends the County standards for design and construction of stormwater management facilities in accordance with the State’s Stormwater Management Act of 2007.

This Resolution requires the use of Environmental Site Design (ESD) which is the use of small scale stormwater management practices, nonstructural techniques and better site planning to mimic natural hydrologic runoff characteristics and minimize the impacts of land development on water resources. ESD also includes conserving natural features, drainage patterns, and vegetation; minimizing impervious surfaces; slowing down runoff; increasing infiltration. ESD is to be used to the maximum extent practicable. This is to be used on new projects as well as redevelopment projects.

The Resolution also requires that a project submit a concept plan that identifies all environmental resources and buffers located on a site, called an Environmental Concept Plan. This plan shows drainage areas that are used in preparing a strategy for protecting those resources, identifies areas where ESD techniques can be used, defines where development can occur and outlines erosion and sediment control strategies.

This Resolution will have a fiscal impact on Howard County in that there will now be many more stormwater management facilities that the County will have to inspect, own and maintain.

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Attachment

cc: Jessica Feldmark, Chief of Staff
Ray Wacks, Director, Office of Budget
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator
Marsha McLaughlin, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
Thomas Butler, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
File: SWM Chapter 5

